,,The Optimist Club of Treynor, Treynor, IA
Iowa District, Zone 2 Club Number 40-109
Iowa District Governor: Jane Schmidt

Lt Governor: George Volz

NEWSLETTER

Treynor Optimist Club President:
Dale Willenborg

July11, 2026 Vol. 42, No.27

Andy Wicks, Pott Co. Engineer



Andy Wicks (R.) was introduced by Supervisor Jeff Jorgensen (L,). Wicks has served in this position since October 2025. He has his degree from UNO. Previously he worked for HDR with the Council Bluffs interstate reconstruction project, followed by being Pott. Co.Traffic Engineer for eight years. His job involves customer service, managing taxpayer funds and helping the county grow.

Andy met his wife, Ann, at a Bible study and married in 2022. They do not have children.

Wicks is County Engineer of secondary roads, but not local or primary roads. Highways and interstates are primary roads. Local roads belong to municipalities, such as LaMar Drive. The County Engineer is also responsible for 33 ft. on either side of the secondary roads – bridges, culverts.

There are four areas that Wicks manages:

1. Buildings: There are seven county buildings from Honey Creek to Carson which house snow plows, equipment and employees,
2. Equipment: 15 road graders, 30 single axle and double axle dump trucks for salt, sand, gravel, snow. Four tractor mowers mow 1500 miles of road ditches, which is doubled for both sides.
3. Staff: There are 60 employees ranging from laborers that build bridges to grading roads, secretarial help, mechanics, and engineer technicians that do design work. They build three to five bridges a year. These are designed in house by the design team.
4. Development: Wicks stated we have to grow if we don't want to raise taxes. He identifies areas, partnering with national firms, that do data analytics where residential development can happen without being on a major street.

Four residential development road areas being worked on for future growth:

a. Sub-division just south of Carson. The town is interested in workforce homes and the county will put 1/3 mile of asphalt down the street.
b. West of Treynor from Hwy 92 to Pioneer Trail- a 2.5 mi stretch to improve and couples with a sub-division there.
c. By Westfair
d. Weston Ave., south of Underwood.

A recommendation was made by an Optimist to finish the Pioneer Trail paving west. Werks said every 4 years they get a traffic survey from Iowa and volume helps determine paving. The Optimist felt with paving, volume would increase.

To incentivize commercial development the 192nd St. corridor from the CB city limits all the way to Mills Co. will be improved. Wicks said to keep in mind the goal of building the county is that it will benefit the whole county.

There was discussion about speed limits on gravel and hard services and the new speeds in Iowa since July 1. There are varying opinions about what speed to use while signs are being changed, but his recommendation was to follow what the sign says.

Other discussion: the number of crashes in an area before determining if a stop sign is appropriate, sharing maintenance agreements with counties when roads cross over, and bridges/tubes/culverts for today's larger farm equipment.

Next week's speaker:
Saturday, July 18: Kayli Christensen Evridge Update

Quote:

"Always go with your passions. Never ask yourself if it's realistic or not."

Deepak Chopra

Meeting Minutes

President Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Center. Twenty-one members were present. Guests were Allen Hadfield, Adalyn Minahan, and Taylor Black.

Prayer: Dale Willenborg

Jokes: Keith Denton, Steve Chambers, Judy Guttau, Jeff Jorgensen, Kathy Luedke

50/50: Bill Vorthmann

Attendance: Glenrose Meier

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Gary Guttau's 90th birthday is July 14. Jeff Jorgensen stated July 14 would have been his wife's and his 36th wedding anniversary.

Bragging Rights: (Dollars are contributed to benefit local youth programs.)

- Chad Guttau: Today is the birthday party for his dad and Optimists are invited. Gary stated when he was born it was 114 degrees in 1936.
- Jim Clausen: His granddaughter (Dawn's daughter) is 15 and plays volleyball for a club team in Omaha. They qualified for nationals in Orlando, Fl., and they won 14 games in a row and won the whole thing, first time ever for Omaha. There were 150 teams. His granddaughter was named All American.
- Kirk Vorthmann: $1 to announce the birth of their great granddaughter Sophelia, born to Ashlyn and Zach Elliott and $1 for putting up with Great Grandma.
- Judy Guttau: Their German exchange son and family are visiting for three weeks and they and Kathy traveled to Manning to see the German Barnhaus, church and an old home and had a great tour!
- Keith Denton: Shared a story
- Dale Willenborg: Grandkids were here this last week and they had fun. The grandson who made the Optimist flag plugs made boomerangs with a 3-D printer.
- Kirk Vorthmann: They spent three days at the Lake of the Ozarks and had fun kayaking down the river with Dale and Carol Jensen on a 3.5 run. Keith Denton helped with loading up/hauling the kayaks.

Business:



- President Dale presented and interviewed Taylor Black and Adalyn Minahan who received their $500 Optimist scholarships. Taylor is studying for a degree in welding at Iowa Western. Adelyn will attend the University of Iowa and study marketing and finance.
- Westfair gate volunteers are needed Thurs., July 23 from 1-3 PM and 3-5PM. Ken Graham, Bill Vorthmann, Dale Willenborg volunteered. Let Dale know if you can also help.
- Those helping with the Can Kennel for the Boy Scouts were Dale Willenborg, John Klein, Bill Vorthmann and his grandson.
- Flags were taken down by Chad and Gary Guttau, Bill Vorthmann, Bret McVey, Steve Chambers, Dennis White, John Klein and Patty Walter.

Community Events:

- **Tues., July 11**: Treynor Farmers Market
  Food Trucks – Tikka Talk (Indian) and 221 Grill & Catering-5:30-7:30 PM
- **Thur. July 16:** GreenSpace Jam Concert- High Heel (rock) – music, food, fun. 7-9 PM
  Bring blanket, lawn chairs to green space west of bank.

School Events <u>in Treynor</u>

- **None this week on the calendar.**

Cucumbers were available for anyone from Dale.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR



CALENDAR

Events:

July 18 Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM
Treynor Community Center – Legion Rm.

Birthdays:

July 14 Gary Guttau
July 23 Jerry Hempel
July 27 Jim Clausen

Anniversaries:

July 15 Jordan & Katie Campbell

Programs:

July Phil Waggoner (3rd, 4th Sat)
August Dale Willenborg
September Jim Clausen (1st, 2nd Sat)
Bill Vorthmann (3rd, 4th Sat)

Speakers:

July 18 Kayli Christensen Evridge
July 25 Dr. Joel Beyenhof, Supt.of Treynor Community School

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA